



COMPTROLLER
of MARYLAND
Serving the People

Peter Franchot
Comptroller

James T. Loftus
Director

January 21, 2009

Richard M. Glacken
Deputy Director
Compliance Division

Ms. Erin E. VanDagna
Service Delivery Division Director
Office of Charge Card Management
Federal Acquisition Service
U.S. General Services Administration
2200 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 20406

Dear Ms. VanDagna:

Your letter dated January 15, 2009 asks the Comptroller of Maryland to identify the tax exemptions available in Maryland for Federal Government purchases made using the U.S. General Services Administration's GSA SMART PAY® charge cards. Based on the information provided, purchases made for the federal government using the following cards would not be subject to the Maryland sales and use tax, as they are centrally billed to the federal government and are exempt as direct sales to the federal government.

- Purchase MasterCard cards with the first four digits of 5565 or 5568
- Purchase Visa cards with the first four digits of 4486, 4614, or 4716
- Fleet MasterCard cards with the first four digits of 5565 or 5568
- Fleet Voyager cards with the first four digits of 8699
- Travel MasterCard cards with the first four digits of 5565 or 5568, and with a sixth digit of 0, 6, 7, 8 or 9
- Travel Visa cards with the first four digits of 4486 or 4614, and with a sixth digit of 0, 6, 7, 8 or 9
- Debit/Prepaid MasterCard cards with the first four digits of 5564, 5565 or 5568
- Debit/Prepaid Visa cards with the first four digits of 4614

Telephone: 410-767-1500, 1-800-492-1752 E-mail: jking@comp.state.md.us

301 West Preston Street • Baltimore, MD 21201-2383

Maryland Relay 711 • TTY 410-767-1967 • <http://compnet.comp.state.md.us/compliance>

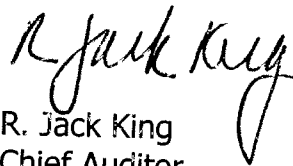
Ms. Erin E. VanDagna
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Purchases made using the following cards would be subject to the Maryland sales and use tax, as they are individually billed and they are not treated as direct sales to the federal government.

Travel MasterCard cards with the first four digits of 5565 or 5568, and with a sixth digit of 1, 2, 3 or 4
Travel Visa cards with the first four digits of 4486 or 4614, and a sixth digit of 1, 2, 3 or 4

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Jack King". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R. Jack" and the last name "King" clearly distinguishable.

R. Jack King
Chief Auditor

RJK:gts



I. STATE / JURISDICTION / U.S. TERRITORY INFORMATION

Please indicate the state / jurisdiction / U.S. territory for which you are reporting:

State / Jurisdiction / U.S. Territory: Maryland

II. TAX EXEMPTION OFFERINGS

Please indicate which of the following tax exemptions your state / jurisdiction / U.S. territory provides to government customers with centrally billed accounts and/or individually billed accounts as described below. Please also use this section to provide a description of the applicable tax exemptions, pertinent statutes, regulations, court rulings, etc. that pertain to the type of tax exemption.

Centrally Billed Accounts (CBAs) are charge card accounts paid directly by the government to the issuing bank.
 Individually Billed Accounts (IBAs) are charge card accounts paid directly by the cardholder to the issuing bank, but cardholders are reimbursed by the government, as official government expenses.

Tax Exemption Offerings (Please check all that apply)		Additional Information (Description, pertinent statutes, regulations, etc.)
Sales Tax	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centrally Billed Accounts (CBAs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individually Billed Accounts (IBAs)	
Lodging Tax	<input type="checkbox"/> Centrally Billed Accounts (CBAs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individually Billed Accounts (IBAs)	
Hotel Occupancy Tax	<input type="checkbox"/> Centrally Billed Accounts (CBAs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individually Billed Accounts (IBAs)	
Public Accommodation Tax	<input type="checkbox"/> Centrally Billed Accounts (CBAs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individually Billed Accounts (IBAs)	
Tourism Tax	<input type="checkbox"/> Centrally Billed Accounts (CBAs)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individually Billed Accounts (IBAs)	
Fleet Tax	<input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel Fuel <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Fuel	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance	
Other Tax	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: please specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> CBA <input type="checkbox"/> IBA	

III. TAX EXEMPTION FORMS

As indicated in GSA's letter, we request that the GSA SmartPay® 2 cards' design and structure suffice for tax exemption certification. If this is not possible, please indicate if your state / jurisdiction / U.S. territory requires government customers to complete any documentation in order to receive a tax exemption. Also, please indicate the website address for accessing any required forms; you may also provide the form via an email attachment.

Tax Exempt Documentation		Website Address or Hyperlink:
1	Exemption Certificate	http://business.marylandtaxes.com/news/taxtips/business/bustip06.asp
2		
3		

IV. TAX RECOVERY PROCEDURES

Please indicate the procedures that government customers should follow in the event that taxes are charged to official government transactions in error.

Tax Recovery Procedures:

File a Sales and Use Tax Refund Application with appropriate documentation . The application is available on the following page of our website:
http://compnet.comp.state.md.us/Compliance_Division/Static_Files/st205.pdf

V. CONTACT INFORMATION

Please indicate the point-of-contact for follow-up questions related to your tax exemption policies.

Last Name, First Name:	Dutton, Esther
Name of Agency:	Comptroller of Maryland
Office Address (Line 1):	301 W Preston St
Office Address (Line 2):	Room 303
City, State Zip:	Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone Number:	410-767-1511
Fax Number:	410-333-7744
Email Address:	edutton@comp.state.md.us

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter!